



RCE  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/044,936
Filing Date	January 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Takayuki TSUKIMOTO et al.
Group Art Unit	2834
Examiner Name	M. Budd
Attorney Docket Number	03500.016112

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the Request for Reconsideration After Final Rejection previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment and Transmittal Therefor 08/20/2004 HDEMESS1 00000055 10044936
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 01 FC:1801 770.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 for the filing fee is enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Michael J. Didas	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	55,112
Signature		Date	August 19, 2004

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)		
Signature		Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

MJD/ksp



In re Application of:

Takayuki TSUKIMOTO et al.

Application No.: 10/044,936

Filed: January 15, 2002

For: VIBRATION ELEMENT AND VIBRATION  
WAVE DRIVING APPARATUS

Docket No. 03500.016112

Examiner: M. Budd

Group Art Unit: 2834

Confirmation No.: 1495

Date: August 19, 2004

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	32	MINUS	32	= 0	x \$ 9 \$18	\$ 0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	6	MINUS	6	0	x \$43 \$86	\$ 0.00
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$140°/\$280						
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---						\$ 0.00

☐ °Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the Extension fee for response within \_\_\_\_ month is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.
- ☒ Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.



Attorney for Applicants  
Michael J. Didas  
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MJD/ksp



03500.016112

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: M. Budd
Takayuki TSUKIMOTO et al.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2834
Application No.: 10/044,936	)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 1495
Filed: January 15, 2002	)	
	:	
For: VIBRATION ELEMENT AND	)	August 19, 2004
VIBRATION WAVE DRIVING	:	
APPARATUS	)	

**Mail Stop RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in the above-referenced application.